



Saturday October 20, 2018

West Fork of Oak Creek in Color, Sedona

Approximately 125 Miles and 2.5 Hours from Central Phoenix "stack",

Type: Day Hike

Max Rtg/Pts: 2/1

Elev. Change: 200 Feet

Length: 6.7 Mi or GPS

Start Time: 8:30 A.M.

Duration: 3-5 Hours

Max No of Part: N/A

Last Scouted: Oct 2017

- Major Hike:
- Cross-Country:
- Exploratory:
- Individual Effort:
- Options:
- Pass/Fees Rqd.:

	Coordinator	Alternate
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Required Equipment: Walking Stick or hiking poles. Camera! Waterproof boots or extra shoes and socks for after the hike.

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Cautions and Special Preparations:

Description: This is a hiking club favorite, an easy day hike along the West Fork of Oak Creek. The trail starts from US89A in Oak Creek Canyon about 10 miles north of Sedona, and crisscrosses the West Fork of Oak Creek through dense foliage which will hopefully be in autumn colors of red, orange, yellow, rust and browns within the red walls of the canyon. Walk slowly, take lots of pictures and enjoy! Bring snacks or lunch, and at least 1 quart of water per person. Tennis shoes are adequate for hiking, but since we will be crisscrossing the creek on rock, it is possible your feet will get wet, so waterproof hiking boots would be preferable. (If you wear tennies, you may want to bring a spare pair of socks & shoes just in case!) Also, walking sticks are helpful to keep your balance when crossing the creek. Bring your camera! Friends and guests are welcome. The hike should be over in time to go into Sedona afterwards, if desired. Carpooling is recommended. Allow at least two (2) hours for the drive to Sedona plus a half hour to the parking lot. The parking lot usually fills up before 9:00 am. It is recommended that you get there no later than 8 am to get a parking spot. Be sure to bring the right change as there may not be an attendant if you get there early. The parking fee is \$10.00 (hopefully it hasn't increased) – up to 5 people per car. If you park & walk in, it is \$2.00 per person. You can hike up the canyon all the way to FR231 (FR = forest road) which is roughly 14 miles one way. You would be required to wade and/or swim through pools and walk on large boulders. Several years ago we had a rainy day but still hiked a short two miles. In recent years the weather has been gorgeous and we've had lots of attendees. We usually see very few people on the trip in but lots of hikers on the way out. Options: Go as far as you like and turn around anytime. Be sure to let the hike leader know where you turn around.

Driving Directions: North on I-17, 100 miles from central Phoenix to SR 179, turn north (left), go about 15 miles to Sedona, then turn right (north) onto US 89A, drive north of Sedona about 10 miles to just north of MP 384.0 to the parking area (on the left). Fee is charged at the parking area, car pooling is encouraged. Restrooms are available at the parking lot.